

# First High $Q^2$ $^3\text{He}$ Form Factor Measurements using Polarization Observables

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Scott Barcus

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Jefferson Lab

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  - FFs extracted via **polarization observables** vs. **unpolarized Rosenbluth separations** disagree.
  - Disagreement is worse at high  $Q^2$ .
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- **Double-polarization measurements** have also shown divergent results from theoretical predictions in past  $^3\text{He}$  experiments (Mihovilovič *et al.* 2019; Mihovilovič *et al.* 2014).
- The double-polarization asymmetry (polarized electron beam and polarized  $^3\text{He}$  target) is proportional to the product of  $F_{ch}$  and  $F_m$ .
  - **Zeros of the asymmetry are the FF diffractive minima**.
  - Constrain minima locations.
  - Hypothesis test theoretical models.

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$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_{\text{exp}} = \left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_{\text{Mott}} \frac{1}{1+\tau} \left[ G_E^2(Q^2) + \frac{\tau}{\epsilon} G_M^2(Q^2) \right] \quad (1)$$

- With  $\epsilon = (1 + 2(1 + \tau) \tan^2(\frac{\theta}{2}))^{-1}$  and  $\tau = \frac{Q^2}{4M^2}$ , where  $\theta$  is the scattering angle of the electron.

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$$\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_r = \frac{\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_{\text{exp}}}{\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_{\text{Mott}}} \epsilon(1 + \tau) = \left[ \epsilon G_E^2(Q^2) + \tau G_M^2(Q^2) \right] \quad (2)$$

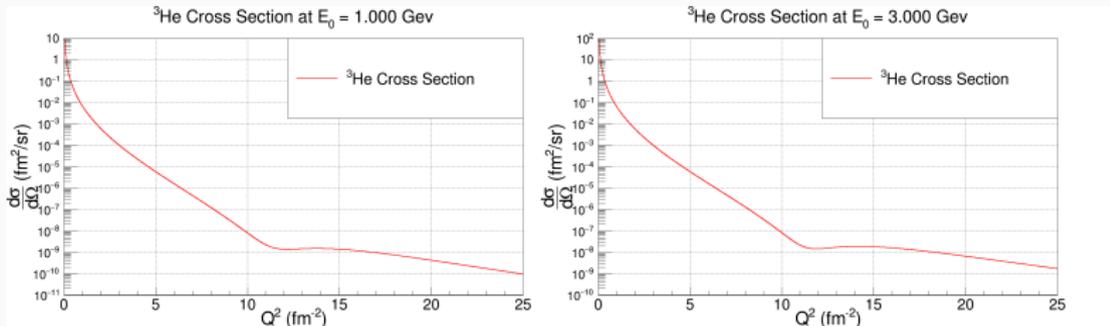
- By plotting  $\left(\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega}\right)_r$  against  $\epsilon$  **the slope of the line gives  $G_E^2$**  and **the y-intercept gives  $\tau G_M^2$** .
- Rosenbluth separations take significant beam time and struggle near the diffractive minima.

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- Extract FFs by cross section world data fits e.g. sum of Gaussians.
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- $^3\text{He}$  cross section at 1 GeV and 3 GeV.



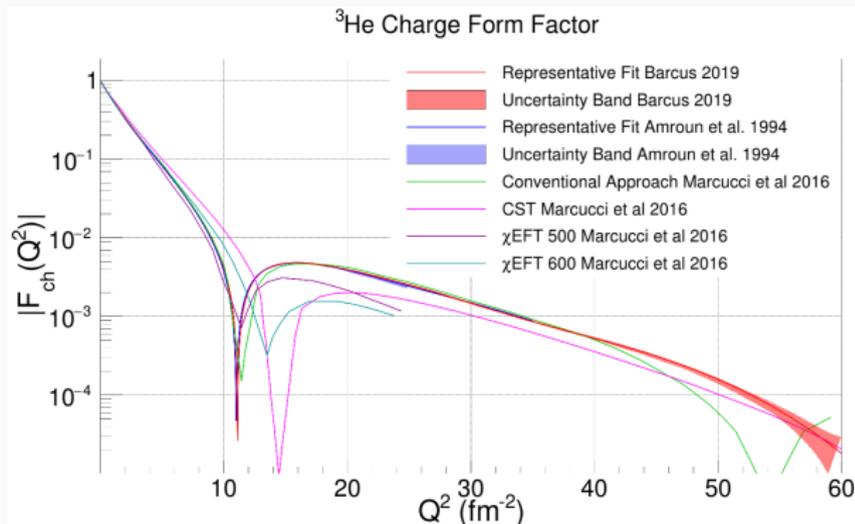
(a)  $^3\text{He}$  cross section at 1 GeV.

(b)  $^3\text{He}$  cross section at 3 GeV.

**Figure 1:** Plots of the  $^3\text{He}$  cross section at two different energies. Form factor parametrizations from Reference (Barcus 2019).

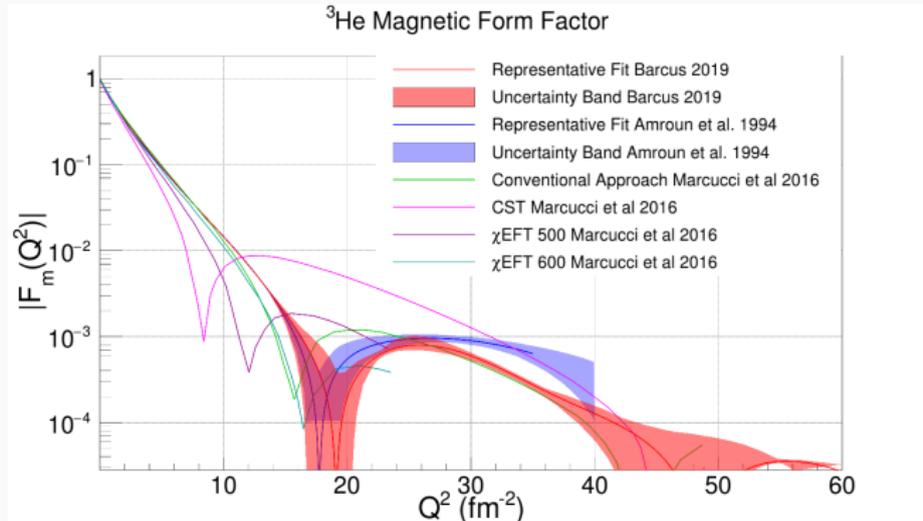
- Can sharp FF minima fit relatively shallow cross section minima well?

- Plot of  ${}^3\text{He } F_{ch}$  with four theory curves.
- ‘Conventional’ theoretical approach, two  $\chi\text{EFT}$  predictions, and a covariant spectator theorem model (Marcucci *et al.* 2016).



**Figure 2:**  ${}^3\text{He } F_{ch}$  SOG fits and uncertainty bands from References (Amroun *et al.* 1994; Barcus 2019) along with four theoretical predictions from Reference (Marcucci *et al.* 2016). Note that  $F_{ch}$  is plotted here and  $F_{ch} = G_E$ .

- Plot of  $^3\text{He } F_m$  with four theory curves.



**Figure 3:**  $^3\text{He } F_m$  SOG fits and uncertainty bands from References (Amroun *et al.* 1994; Barcus 2019) along with four theoretical predictions from Reference (Marcucci *et al.* 2016). Note that  $F_m$  is plotted here and  $F_m = G_M/\mu$ , where  $\mu$  is the  $^3\text{He}$  magnetic moment.

- Theory predicts minimum at significantly lower  $Q^2$  than measured.

# Double-Polarization Asymmetry

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- The **double-polarization asymmetry** is given by:

$$A_{phys} = \frac{-2\sqrt{\tau(1+\tau)} \tan\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right)}{G_E^2 + \frac{\tau}{\epsilon} G_M^2} \left[ \sin(\theta^*) \cos(\phi^*) G_E G_M + \sqrt{\tau \left[ 1 + (1+\tau) \tan^2\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) \right]} \cos(\theta^*) G_M^2 \right] \quad (3)$$

- $\theta^*$  and  $\phi^*$  are the polar and azimuthal angles of the polarization vector of the target.
- **Target polarization direction can control the  $G_E G_M$  and  $G_M^2$  terms.**

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- **Target polarization direction can control the  $G_E G_M$  and  $G_M^2$  terms.**
- The **measured observable** is given by (4) and relates to the **true asymmetry** by (5).

$$A_{meas} = \frac{N^+ - N^-}{N^+ + N^-}, \quad (4) \quad A_{meas} = P_t P_l A_{phys}, \quad (5)$$

- $N^+$  ( $N^-$ ) is the normalized counting rate for positive (negative) beam helicity.
- $P_t$  and  $P_l$  are the degrees of polarization of the target and beam.

## Double-Polarization Asymmetry Cont.

- Unpolarized Rosenbluth measurements only sensitive to  $G_E^2$  and  $G_M^2$ .

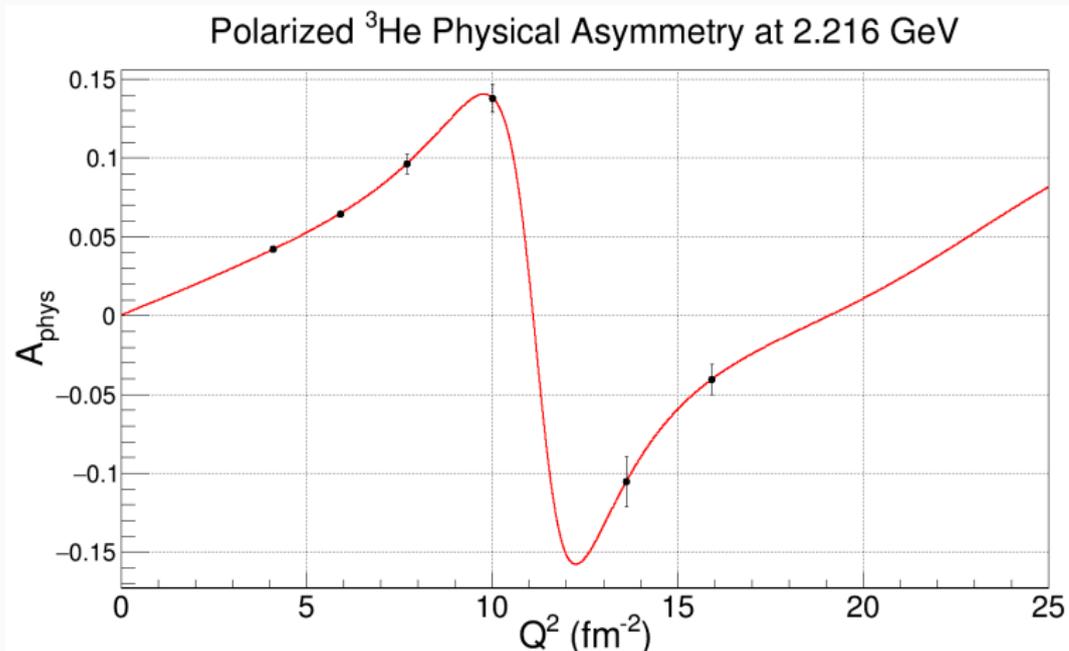
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- Double-polarization measurements are sensitive to the FF signs through the  $G_E G_M$  cross term.
  - Choose target polarization to minimize  $G_M^2$  term ( $\cos(\phi^*) \approx 1$  and  $\theta^* \approx \frac{\pi}{2}$ ).
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  - **The zeros of the asymmetry correspond to the FF minima.**
- Hypothesis test theoretical predictions.
  - Take  $G_E$  and  $G_M$  from theory and calculate/plot theory asymmetries.
- New independent tool to map FFs without the issues of unpolarized Rosenbluth measurements.

## Double-Polarization Asymmetry Cont.



**Figure 4:** Double-polarization asymmetry at 2.216 GeV using the SOG fits in Reference (Barcus 2019). The points show the statistical uncertainty of the mean of each kinematic setting.

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- Uses  $^3\text{He}$  target developed for E12-06-110 and E12-06-121.

| Length [cm] | Max Current [ $\mu\text{A}$ ] | Target Polarization | Beam Polarization |
|-------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 40          | 30                            | 55%                 | 85%               |

**Table 1:** Expected  $^3\text{He}$  Target Characteristics

## Proposed Procedure Cont.

- Parasitically make measurements at 2.216 GeV when experiment E12-06-121 (Sawatzky *et al.* 2006) takes data on beam-target polarization product.

|      | $E_{\text{beam}}$<br>[GeV] | $\theta$<br>[ $^{\circ}$ ] | $Q^2$<br>[ $\text{fm}^{-2}$ ] | Estimated<br>Cross Section<br>[mb/sr] | Rate<br>[Events/hr] | Time<br>[hr] |
|------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| SHMS | 2.216                      | k1                         | 11                            | $4.39 \times 10^{-4}$                 | 2,605,270           | 1            |
|      |                            | k2                         | 13                            | $5.14 \times 10^{-5}$                 | 305,609             | 1            |
|      |                            | k3                         | 15                            | $8.38 \times 10^{-6}$                 | 25,946              | 1            |
|      |                            | k4                         | 17                            | $2.22 \times 10^{-7}$                 | 1,319               | 10           |
|      |                            | k5                         | 19                            | $5.97 \times 10^{-8}$                 | 355                 | 11           |
| HMS  | 2.216                      | k6                         | 21                            | $3.99 \times 10^{-8}$                 | 427                 | 24           |

**Table 2:** Spectrometer Central Kinematics

- High rate kinematics not statistics limited  $\rightarrow$  check systematics.
- Low  $Q^2$  points will determine product of beam-target polarization.

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- In collaboration with  $d_2^n$  we proposed to **measure the double-polarization asymmetry of  $^3\text{He}$**  over a range of  $Q^2$ .
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- In collaboration with  $d_2^n$  we proposed to **measure the double-polarization asymmetry of  $^3\text{He}$**  over a range of  $Q^2$ .
  - Parasitically uses time already allotted for measuring beam-target polarization product.
- This will be the **first high  $Q^2$  measurement of  $^3\text{He}$  FFs using polarization observables**.
  - Constrain the locations of the FF diffractive minima.
  - Provide new method to hypothesis test theory predictions.
  - Determine if polarization observables agree with unpolarized Rosenbluth results.
  - Help explain the discrepancies between theoretical predictions and experimental measurements of the  $^3\text{He}$  FFs.
- **History has shown that polarization measurements can reveal problems with cross section extracted FFs (Jones *et al.* 2000).**

# Acknowledgments

- Thanks to the  $A_1^n/D_2^n$  collaboration for welcoming us and supporting our run group proposal.
- Thanks to **Shujie Li** for running the MC simulations for rate estimates and many other contributions.
- Thanks to **Brad Sawatzky** for welcoming us to the collaboration and his guidance through this process.
- Thanks to **Doug Higinbotham** for organizing this process and keeping this proposal going year after year.
- Finally, thanks also to all those who worked to develop this proposal in the past including **R. E. McClellan**, **J. Bericic**, **V. Sulkosky**, **T. Averett**, and **S. Sirca**.

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